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FOR

PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM ABC World News

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DATE

May 25, 1982

7:00 PM

CITY

Washington, DC

SUBJECT

The Argentine High Command

FRANK REYNOLDS: Earlier today Secretary of State Haig was quoted aas telling Republican and Congressional leaders "the British are now in a strong position to achieve a military victory fairly soon."

There is other evidence of that and senior correspondent John Scali has this report.

JOHN SCALI: British military forces are about to launch a series of quick moving helicopter assaults which they are confident will wrap up the Falkland campaign in about ten days.

At the same time US intelligence has detected evidence of gloom and bickering within the Argentine high command. Angry complaints by Argentine Army and Air Force leaders have been overheard, including demands that the Argentine Navy get involved in the battle in order to avert imminent defeat.

US intelligence has also picked up evidence that the Argentine commander on the Falklands has reported that his forces are pinned down unable to mount any important counterattack and desperately in need of some dramatic navy intervention.

With pressure mounting, Argentine naval leaders are known to be considering a naval spectacular such as putting a task force to sea to seek out the British liner QE2, which is due in the area in the next few days with 3,000 troops on board.